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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _Jan 27, 1998_

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under _Ex parte Quayle_ 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3___ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) _1-82_ is/are pending in the applicat

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) _1-82_ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

   ☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

      ☐ received.

      ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

      ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   *Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____2___

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to the application filed on 1/27/98, and IDS filed on 5/1/98.

This action is made non-final.

2.   Claims 1-82 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 14 24, 29, 36, 40, 53, 61, 72, and 76 are

independent claims.

Drawings

3.   The drawings filed on 1/27/98 have been approved by the draftsperson.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5.   Claims 7, 21, 46, and 65 recite the limitation "status flag" in lines 20, 28, 25, and 65

respectively. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

6.   Claims 2, 38, 42 ,63, 74, and 787 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as

containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable

one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make

and/or use the invention. The specification fails to provide enough support as to enable one of

ordinary skill in the art to properly implement the use of "N >2" or "N>=2".

7.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8.   Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for

failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11, 29-31, 40, 43-45, 47, 50, 61, 64, 66, 69, 76, 79-80, and 82 are

rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw et al (Pat. # 5,835,722,

6/27/ 96).

Regarding independent claim 1, Bradshaw et al disclose "….the use of words

inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words……" (Col 3,

lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'A method of checking the meaning of a

word……'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have checked the meaning of the word, because Bradshaw et al teach

screening out—'checking'-- words according to their meaning—"inappropriate or offensive".

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'retrieving said word to be checked from said document.'— "….the winsock sentinel, which monitor data being passed into and out of the topmost application and compare the data to that stored in libraries……" (Col 6, lines 2-4). "The winsock sentinel" was a software module which monitored and retrieved "inappropriate or offensive" words contained in the document.

Furthermore, Bradshaw et al disclose 'determining whether said word has been inadvertently included in said document and …….has been designated as potentially inappropriate…..'— "….the invention interacts with the system…..it can be used to prevent obscene or other undesirable words from being produced in any application……", and "……it is less likely that offensive material will inadvertently get through……" (Col. 3, lines 61-65, and Col 4, lines 16-20). Bradshaw et al teach preventing the inadvertent insertion of "offensive material" or words into a document.

Regarding dependent claim 4, Bradshaw et al disclose 'The method…..words that have a potentially inappropriate meaning can be identified without input from a user …..'— "The X-Stop monitoring system through either of its four sentinel modules…..monitors data being created or being transferred to and from the topmost active application……", and "…the X-Stop monitoring application runs always as an active application, usually in the background…" (Col 6, lines 15-18, and Col. 5, lines 60-62). Bradshaw et al teach that "the X-Stop monitoring system" identified words having inappropriate or "offensive" meaning as a background process or without intervention from the user.

Regarding dependent claim 5, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The data is compared to the appropriate library and if there is a match in a library......", and "...the X-Stop monitoring application runs always as an active application, usually in the background..." (Col 6, lines 18-20, and Col. 5, lines 60-62). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method......an identification of potentially inappropriate words can take place at or about the time the electronic dictionary is first generated'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have performed this step, because Bradshaw et al teach that the "X-Stop" system worked in a background mode and using libraries of "offensive" words to inspect the document for a matching word (s). Thus, if the library or "electronic dictionary" was ready of 'first generated', then "X-Stop' would have been able to screen out or identify the 'inappropriate' words.

Regarding dependent claim 6, Bradshaw et al disclose 'The method.....a step of generating an alert indicating that such word is potentially inappropriate'— "Alternate blocking routines may include routines that.....intervening with only a temporary warning screen, or audible warning..." (Col. 9, lines 32-36). Bradshaw et al teach that "the X-Stop monitoring system" could have also given visual or audible warning to the user about the presence of an "offensive"--'potentially inappropriate'-- word.

Regarding dependent claim 8, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The data is compared to the appropriate library and if there is a match in a library......" (Col. 6, lines 18-20). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.....a step of verifying the spelling of such word'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have performed this step, because Bradshaw et al teach matching a 'potentially inappropriate' word with the words in a "library" or 'dictionary'. In the process of finding a match, the system had to check the spelling of the word in the document against the spelling of the words in the "libraries".

Regarding dependent claim 11, Bradshaw et al disclose "....Libraries 1, 2, and 3 are read from the hard-disk into the volatile computer memory (RAM) to allow reading of the libraries by the sentinel modules without materially slowing down the system......" (Col. 8, lines 17-21). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.....word is checked substantially immediate in time after it is input into said document....'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have performed this step, because Bradshaw et al teach loading the "libraries"—'dictionaries'—into the RAM memory for a fast or 'immediate in time' match of the 'potentially inappropriate' word.

Regarding independent claim 29, Bradshaw et al disclose 'A method of automatically word checking an electronic document as it is generated by a user.....'--"The user is in a word processing program and types "mukky". The keyboard sentinel detects the typing of the prohibited word ...." (Col 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al teach the detection of a 'potentially inappropriate' word in a word processing system as it was being typed by an user.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'monitoring data input by said user.....'--"The user is in a word processing program and types "mukky". The keyboard sentinel detects the typing of the prohibited word ...." (Col 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al teach the detection of a

'potentially inappropriate' word by "the keyboard sentinel" in a word processing system at the same time it was being typed by an user.

Further, Bradshaw et al disclose 'determining whether the word is potentially inappropriate for use in said document' --"The user is in a word processing program and types "mukky". The keyboard sentinel detects the typing of the prohibited word ...." (Col 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al teach the detection of a 'potentially inappropriate' word— "mukky"-- in a word processing system as it was being typed by an user.

In addition, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The clipboard sentinel detects the passage of the prohibited word through the clipboard and blocks the system" (Col. 11, lines 36-40). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'wherein a result of said word checking is communicated to said user with substantially minimal delay....'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have checked the word with 'substantially minimal delay', because Bradshaw et al teach that the purpose of the invention was to prevent access to inappropriate activities such as typing obscene words, or trying to access pornographic web sites, so that detection would have been fast enough to stop these activities.

Regarding dependent claim 30, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The clipboard sentinel detects the passage of the prohibited word through the clipboard and blocks the system" (Col. 11, lines 36-40). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method....said result is communicated before said user has completed data input....'. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have checked the word before input of next word, because Bradshaw et al teach that the purpose of the invention

was to prevent access to inappropriate activities such as typing obscene words, or trying to access pornographic web sites, so that detection would have been fast enough to stop these activities.

Regarding dependent claim 31, Bradshaw et al disclose 'The method....said user is precluded from inputting additional words in said document until corrective action has been taken for such word'--"The blocking routine is designed to prevent any further use of the computer system by a user unless a supervisor intervenes to deactivate X-Stop..." (Col. 6, lines 50-54). Bradshaw et al teach that their invention prevented the user from inputting any further words until the intervention of a "supervisor" to unlock the computer—' corrective action has been taken for such word'.

Claims 40, 43-45, 47 and 50 are directed towards an electronic system for permitting a user to check the meaning of words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 1, 4-6, 8, and 11 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Claims 61, 64, 66, and 69 are directed towards a system for permitting a user to check the meaning of words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 1, 6, 8, and 11 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Claims 76, 79, 80, and 82 are directed towards a method for checking the meaning of a word in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 1, 6, 8, and 11 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

11.   Claims 2-3, 7, 9-10, 14-22, 32-33, 35-39, 41-42, 46, 48-49, 52, 62-63, 65, 67-68, 72-75, 77-78, and 81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw et al

(Pat. # 5,835,722, 6/27/ 96), in view of Newbold et al (Pat. # 5,576,955, 6/7/ 95, disclosed by

Applicants).

Regarding dependent claim 2, Bradshaw et al disclose "....This fifth library contains

words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request

can produce a list of pornographic sites......" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to

explicitly disclose 'The method.....designating words that have a meaning that is potentially

inappropriate by changing a value of a status field...........'. However, Newbold et al disclose

"....The error identifier consists of multiple fields including a unique error identifier........."

(Col 4, lines 13-20). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al, because Newbold et

al teach that the types of errors indicated by the "error identifier" included "spelling, usage,

custom usage....." (Col. 4, lines 17-20). screening out—'checking'-- words according to their

meaning—"inappropriate or offensive".

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'retrieving said word to be checked from said

document.'— "....the winsock sentinel, which monitor data being passed into and out of the

topmost application and compare the data to that stored in libraries......" (Col 6, lines 2-4). "The

winsock sentinel" was a software module which monitored and retrieved "inappropriate or

offensive" words contained in the "libraries".

Regarding dependent claim 3, Bradshaw et al disclose "The libraries of prohibited words

....can be edited by a supervisor......" (Col. 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly

disclose 'The method.....status field for each of the words can have one of N values, where N >

2.'. However, Newbold et al disclose "....The error identifier consists of multiple fields

including a unique error identifier..........", "....Each occurrences of a group member has the

same error identifier....", and that the "error identifier" contains "thirty-two bits" (Col 4, lines

13-20, Col. 7, lines 32-33, and Col. 4, line 4). It would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the addition of 'potentially

inappropriate' words to a library as taught by Bradshaw et al, and the usage of an "error

identifier" field to designate errors in a text document as taught by Newbold et al, because

Newbold et al teach that the types of errors indicated by the "error identifier" included "spelling,

usage, custom usage.....", and that the "error identifier" contains "thirty-two bits" (Col. 4, lines

17-20, and line 4), such as the usage of an inappropriate word as taught by the present invention.

Regarding dependent claim 7, Bradshaw et al disclose "The libraries of prohibited words

....can be edited by a supervisor......" (Col. 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly

disclose 'The method.....step of permitting user to change the value of the status flag for such

word.'. However, Newbold et al disclose "....The error identifier consists of multiple fields

including a unique error identifier..........", "....Each occurrences of a group member has the

same error identifier...." (Col 4, lines 13-20, Col. 7, lines 32-33). It would have been obvious

to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the addition

of 'potentially inappropriate' words to a library as taught by Bradshaw et al, and the usage of an

"error identifier" field to designate errors in a text document as taught by Newbold et al, because

Newbold et al teach that "A group of errors can be added to the dictionary after identifying a

group of errors" (Col 4, lines 13-20)—'permitting user to change the value of the status flag for such word'.

Regarding dependent claim 9, Bradshaw et al disclose "....This fifth library contains words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request can produce a list of pornographic sites......" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.....generating a list of substitute words in the event such word is misspelled....determining whether the substituted word has a meaning that is potentially inappropriate'. Newbold et al disclose "The errors in the Error List can be addressed in any order, and the Error List can be perused multiple times to including additional errors in a group before performing an operation......if the spacing error is bypassed to address a group of errors with acceptable correction suggestions." (Col 7, lines 8-14). However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al and have checked for the meaning of a word 'that is potentially inappropriate', after having corrected the spelling, because Newbold et al teach that "Error List" could be checked several times to include additional errors such as a word 'that is potentially inappropriate'.

Regarding dependent claim 10, Bradshaw et al disclose "....This fifth library contains words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request can produce a list of pornographic sites......" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.....a list of documents is checked, and a list of potentially inappropriate words in such documents is generated'. Newbold et al disclose "The errors in the

Error List can be addressed in any order, and the Error List can be perused multiple times to

including additional errors in a group before performing an operation......" (Col 7, lines 8-11).

However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al and have

checked 'a list of documents' with 'potentially inappropriate' words, because Newbold et al

teach that "...the present invention is illustrated using textual data......" (Col 3, lines 51-54),

such as a 'list of documents' to handle errors (lines19-20).

Regarding independent claim 14, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words

inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3,

lines 4-6). Newbold et al disclose "....a spelling checker scans text to identify errors...." (Col. 1,

lines 22-26). Bradshaw et al and Newbold et al fail to explicitly disclose 'A method of

permitting a user to simultaneously check the spelling and meaning of words...........'. However,

it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach

"......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage,

custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate'

words as taught by the present invention.

In addition, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word

search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail

to teach '[a] retrieving a word to be spell checked.....'. Newbold et al disclose "....a spelling

checker scans text to identify errors, communicates the error...." (Col. 1, lines 22-26). It would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have

combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach

"......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage,

custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate'

words as taught by the present invention.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word

search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail

to teach '[b] determining whether said word has been spelled correctly...'. Newbold et al

disclose "....a spelling checker scans text to identify errors ...." (Col. 1, lines 22-26). It would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have

combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach

"......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage,

custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate'

words as taught by the present invention.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word

search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail

to teach '[c] when said word has been spelled incorrectly, presenting a first list of alternative

words to said user.....'. However, Newbold et al disclose "For example, the user could quickly

scan the Error List selecting errors with acceptable correction suggestions......." (Col. 4, lines

56-58). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al, because

Newbold et al teach "......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are:

spelling, usage, custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially

inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word

search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail

to teach '[d] determining whether the .....replacement word has been designated as potentially

inappropriate ....'. However, Newbold et al disclose "For example, the user could quickly

scan the Error List selecting errors with acceptable correction suggestions......." (Col. 4, lines

56-58). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the teachings of searching for an 'inappropriate word' as taught by

Bradshaw et al in the quote above, and replacing a misspelled word with an "acceptable

suggestions" as taught by Newbold et al in the quote above, because Newbold et al teach

"......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage,

custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate'

words as taught by the present invention.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word

search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail

to teach '[e] when said word has been designated as potentially inappropriate, presenting a

second list of alternative words ....'. However, Newbold et al disclose "For example, the user

could quickly scan the Error List selecting errors with acceptable correction suggestions......."

(Col. 4, lines 56-58). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to have combined the teachings of searching for an 'inappropriate word' as

taught by Bradshaw et al in the quote above, and replacing a misspelled word with an

"acceptable suggestions"—'second list of alternative words'-- as taught by Newbold et al in the

quote above, because Newbold et al teach "......proof reading engine used to scan the text.

Possible error types are: spelling, usage, custom usage........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the

usage of an 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

Regarding dependent claim 15, Bradshaw et al disclose "The user is in a word processing

application and types "mukky"........." (Col 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al fail to teach 'The

method.....(f): permitting said user to select said word, the first replacement word, or the second

replacement word.'. However, Newbold et al disclose "For example, the user could quickly scan

the Error List selecting errors with acceptable correction suggestions......." (Col. 4, lines 56-58).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

have combined the teachings of typing of an 'inappropriate word' as taught by Bradshaw et al in

the quote above, and replacing a misspelled word with an "acceptable suggestions"—

'replacement words'-- as taught by Newbold et al in the quote above, because Newbold et al

teach "......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage,

custom usage........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate'

words as taught by the present invention.

Regarding dependent claim 16, Bradshaw et al disclose "The user is in a word processing

application and types "mukky"........." (Col 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al fail to teach 'The

method.....(f): repeating steps [d] and [e] as necessary...........said use is permitted to select a

word by manual override'. However, Newbold et al disclose "Errors can be corrected

conventionally by sequentially perusing the scanned text and using the Proofreading

Screen......." (Col. 6, lines 10-11). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of typing of an 'inappropriate

word' as taught by Bradshaw et al in the quote above, and having the user replace a misspelled

word, instead of the proofreading engine—'manual override'-- as taught by Newbold et al in the

quote above, because Newbold et al teach "......proof reading engine used to scan the text.

Possible error types are: spelling, usage, custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the

typing a word 'not designated potentially inappropriate' words as taught by the present

invention.

Claims 17-22 are directed towards a method of permitting a user to simultaneously check

both spelling and grammar for implementing the steps found in claim 2, 4-7, and 11 respectively,

and are similarly rejected.

Regarding dependent claim 32, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The clipboard sentinel

detects the passage of the prohibited word through the clipboard and blocks the system" (Col.

11, lines 36-40). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.... the result of this

spelling check is communicated to said user with substantially minimal delay ....'. However,

Newbold et al disclose "The ability of the background speller to spell check while keeping pace

with the typist depends on processor speed...." (Col. 5, lines 30-37). It would have been

obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the

teachings of fast checking of 'inappropriate' words by Bradshaw et al and the spell checking of

Newbold et al, because Bradshaw et al teach the detection of 'inappropriate' words in a word

processing environment (Col. 11, lines 29-31) such as the one taught by Newbold et al.

Claims 33, and 35 are directed towards a method of automatically word checking an

electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 9, and 13 respectively and are

similarly rejected.

Regarding dependent claim 36, Bradshaw et al disclose 'A method of generating an

electronic version of a dictionary......' --"The libraries of prohibited words and Internet

addresses can be edited by a supervisor......" (Col 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al disclose

editing libraries of prohibited words—'generating an electronic version of a dictionary'.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'inputting data in electronic form to create a set of

words......for said dictionary' --"The libraries of prohibited words and Internet addresses can be

edited by a supervisor......" (Col 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al disclose adding words to

libraries of prohibited words—' create a set of words......for said dictionary'.

Further, Bradshaw et al disclose "The libraries of prohibited words and Internet addresses

can be edited by a supervisor......" (Col 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose

'providing a status field for each such words, which status field indicates.....meaning that is

potentially inappropriate..........'. However, Newbold et al disclose "....The error identifier

consists of multiple fields including a unique error identifier.........." (Col 4, lines 13-20). It

would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

have combined the editing of prohibited words as taught by Bradshaw et al, and the use of error

identifier—'status field'—by Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach that the types of errors

indicated by the "error identifier" included "spelling, usage, custom usage….." (Col. 4, lines 17-20), such as "inappropriate" or "prohibitive" words.

Claims 37-38 are directed towards a method of generating an electronic version of a dictionary for implementing the steps found in claims 2, and 3 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Regarding dependent Claim 39, Bradshaw et al disclose "….This fifth library contains words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request can produce a list of pornographic sites……" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'The dictionary….each status field is associated with the meaning of such word in a first context, and including at least one additional status field for indicating whether such word has a meaning that is potentially inappropriate for use in a second context.'. However, Newbold et al disclose "….The error identifier consists of multiple fields including a unique error identifier…….The present invention identifies error as…..mechanical error is an error that is context-sensitive, and is best understood by viewing the error in the text in which it occurred………." (Col 4, lines 13-24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the detection of 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by Bradshaw et al, and the use of error identifier—'status field'—to proofread words which have different meanings in various contexts by Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach that the types of errors indicated by the "error identifier" included "spelling, usage, custom usage….." (Col. 4, lines 17-20), such as "inappropriate" or "prohibitive" words.

Claims 41-42, 46, 48-49 and 52 are directed towards an electronic system for permitting a

user to check the meaning of words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found

in claims 2-3, 7, 9-10, and 13 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Claims 62-63, 65, and 67-68 are directed towards a system for permitting a user to check

the meaning of words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 2-3,

7, and 9-10 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Claims 72-75 are directed towards an electronic dictionary embodied in computer

readable form for implementing the system, and method found in claims 62, 17, 3, and 39

respectively and are similarly rejected.

Claims 77-78, and 81 are directed towards a method of checking the meaning of a word

in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 2-3, and 9 respectively,

and are similarly rejected.

12.   Claims 12-13, 23, 34, 51, 53-60, and 70-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Bradshaw et al (Pat. # 5,835,722, 6/27/ 96), in view of Newbold et al (Pat. #

5,576,955, 6/7/ 95, disclosed by Applicants) further in view of over Roth (Pat. # 5,907,839, 7/3/

96).

Regarding dependent claim 12, Bradshaw et al disclose "….This fifth library contains

words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request

can produce a list of pornographic sites……" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to

explicitly disclose 'The method…..said word has a first meaning in a first context, and a second

meaning in a second context………..'. However, Roth discloses "The present invention

......concerns evaluating the use of a word in the context of surrounding words.........." (Col. 1,

lines 5-8). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the detection of 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by

Bradshaw et al, and the checking the meaning of words in various contexts as taught by Roth,

because Roth teaches "......concerns evaluating the use of a word in the context of surrounding

words for various applications.........." (Col. 1, lines 5-8), such as the usage of an 'potentially

inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

Regarding dependent claim 13, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The third library contains

prohibited words, i.e., profane and vulgar words, racial slurs and epithets, as well as any other

words that a supervisor may wish to have intercepted......" (Col 6, lines 9-12). Newbold et al

disclose "....The error identifier consists of multiple fields including a unique error

identifier..........", and "....Each occurrences of a group member has the same error

identifier...." (Col. 4, lines 13-20, and Col. 7, lines 32-33). Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al

fail to explicitly disclose 'The method.....step of specifying a threshold value which the status

field must exceed............'. However, Roth discloses "......the algorithm predicts a value

"1".........and "0" otherwise, where (theta) indicates a predetermined threshold.........." (Col. 3,

lines 9-17). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the detection of 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by

Bradshaw et al, the usage of an "error identifier" field—'status field'--to designate errors in a

text document as taught by Newbold et al, and the use of a threshold for words in the context

they appeared, because Roth teaches "......concerns evaluating the use of a word in the context

of surrounding words for various applications..........." (Col. 1, lines 5-8), such as the usage of

an 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

Claim 23 is directed towards a method of permitting a user to simultaneously check both

spelling and grammar for implementing the steps found in claim 12, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 34 is directed towards a method of automatically word checking an electronic

document for implementing the steps found in claim 12, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 51 is directed towards an electronic system for permitting a user to check the

meaning of words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claim 12, and is

similarly rejected.

Regarding independent claim 53, Bradshaw et al disclose 'an electronic dictionary

including a set of words..'--"The libraries of prohibited words and Internet addresses can be

edited by a supervisor......" (Col 3, lines 30-32). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose '...an

associated status field for each of the words for indicating a level of potentially

inappropriateness for such word..........'. However, Newbold et al disclose "....The error

identifier consists of multiple fields including a unique error identifier.........." (Col 4, lines 13-

20). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to have combined the "libraries"—'electronic dictionaries'--as taught by Bradshaw et

al, and the use of error identifier—'status field'—by Newbold et al, because Newbold et al teach

that the types of errors indicated by the "error identifier" included "spelling, usage, custom

usage....." (Col. 4, lines 17-20), such as "inappropriate" or "prohibitive" words.

In addition, Bradshaw et al disclose 'a word checking routine executable by a computing

device and for checking whether words.....are inadvertently included......'-- "....an inadvertent

mistyping of a vulgar word that activates the blocking routine" (Col 9, lines 28-31). Bradshaw et

al teach the activation of a 'word checking routine' when a word was inadvertently included in a

textual document.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'retrieving a word to be word checked from an

electronic document.'— "....the winsock sentinel, which monitor data being passed into and out

of the topmost application and compare the data to that stored in libraries......" (Col 6, lines 2-

4). "The winsock sentinel" was a software module which monitored and retrieved "inappropriate

or offensive" words contained in the 'electronic document'.

Furthermore, Bradshaw et al disclose "....The third library contains prohibited words,

i.e., profane and vulgar words, racial slurs and epithets, as well as any other words that a

supervisor may wish to have intercepted......" (Col 6, lines 9-12). Newbold et al disclose

"....The error identifier consists of multiple fields including a unique error identifier..........",

and "....Each occurrences of a group member has the same error identifier...." (Col. 4, lines 13-

20, and Col. 7, lines 32-33). Bradshaw et al, and Newbold et al fail to explicitly disclose

'accessing the electronic dictionary to determine whether the level of potential inappropriateness

of such word exceeds a threshold ....'. However, Roth discloses "......the algorithm predicts

a value "1".........and "0" otherwise, where (theta) indicates a predetermined threshold.........."

(Col. 3, lines 9-17). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the detection of 'potentially inappropriateness' as taught by

Bradshaw et al, the usage of an "error identifier" field to designate errors in a text document as taught by Newbold et al, and the use of a threshold for words in the context they appeared as taught by Roth, because Roth teaches "......concerns evaluating the use of a word in the context of surrounding words for various applications.........." (Col. 1, lines 5-8), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

In addition, Bradshaw et al disclose 'wherein the electronic dictionary and word checking routine are embodied in a computer readable media'-- "....Library files, programs...are stored on a long term memory storage device...." (Col 5, lines 13-15). Bradshaw et al teach the "programs"--'word checking routine'—and "libraries"—'dictionaries' were stored in "a long term memory storage device"—'computer readable media'.

Regarding dependent claim 54, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail to teach 'The article.....a spell checking routine for determining whether such word has been spelled correctly.'. Newbold et al disclose "....a spelling checker scans text to identify errors ...." (Col. 1, lines 22-26). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al, Newbold et al and Roth, because Newbold et al teach "......proof reading engine used to scan the text. Possible error types are: spelling, usage, custom usage.........." (Col. 4, lines 16-18), such as the usage of an 'potentially inappropriate' words as taught by the present invention.

Regarding dependent claim 55, Bradshaw et al disclose "....This fifth library contains words which in ordinary usage are not vulgar or pornographic, but when used in a search request

can produce a list of pornographic sites......" (Col 6, lines 44-50). Bradshaw et al fail to

explicitly disclose 'The article......the spell checking routine also presents a first list of

alternative words as replacements for the word when it is mis-spelled.....'. Newbold et al

disclose "The errors in the Error List can be addressed in any order, and the Error List can be

perused multiple times to including additional errors in a group before performing an

operation......if the spacing error is bypassed to address a group of errors with acceptable

correction suggestions." (Col 7, lines 8-14). However, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw

et al, Newbold et al, and Roth and have performed this step, because spell checkers is part of

word processors such as the word processors taught by Bradshaw et al (Col. 11, lines 29-31).

Claims 56-59 are directed towards an article of manufacture for implementing the steps

found in claims 13, 2, 11, and 39 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

Regarding dependent claim 60, Bradshaw et al disclose 'The article.....computer readable

media includes any of the following:....a hard disk........-- "....Library files, programs...are

stored on a long term memory storage device...." (Col 5, lines 13-15). Bradshaw et al teach the

"programs" were stored in "a long term memory storage device"—'hard disk'.

Claims 70-71 are directed towards a system for permitting a user to check the meaning of

words in an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claims 12-13 respectively,

and are similarly rejected.

13.   Claims 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw

et al (Pat. # 5,835,722, 6/27/96), in view of Mogilevsky (Pat. # 5,649,222, 5/8/95, disclosed by

Applicants) further in view of Roth (Pat. # 5,907,839, 7/3/ 96).

Regarding independent claim 24, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words

inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words......", and "The

user is in a word processing application and types 'mukky'. The keyboard sentinel detects the

typing......" (Col 3, lines 4-6, and Col. 11, lines 29-31). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly

disclose 'A method of word checking an electronic document....under control of a user of said

program......'. However, Mogilevsky discloses "Spell checking is much easier for the user

because it occurs automatically......" (Col 2, lines 2-7). It would have been obvious to a person

of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of

Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches that spell checking a word—'word

checking'--automatically is much easier on the user.

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose '....a table containing potentially inappropriate words

used in a document'-- "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out

along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6).   Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose

'storing word-checking status information......'. However, Mogilevsky discloses "The spell

checker stores status codes in a table ......" (Col 1, lines 57-59). It would have been obvious to a

person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of

Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches ".... status codes in a table

identifying whether ranges of a characters have been checked ......" (Col 1, lines 57-59).

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose "….the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words……" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'monitoring interaction between said user and said word processing program to identify idle editing periods.'. However, Mogilevsky discloses "…a method for performing spell checking in the background…..to spell checking a document during idle periods……" (Col 1, lines 49-52). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches "The background speller makes efficient use of processor time ……" (Col 2, lines 11-14).

Moreover, Bradshaw et al disclose 'locating potentially inappropriate words in said document…..'-- "….the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words……" (Col 3, lines 4-6).   Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'locating potentially inappropriate words in said document during idle periods, and updating the word checking status…..'. However, Mogilevsky discloses "…a method for performing spell checking in the background…..to spell checking a document during idle periods……" (Col 1, lines 49-52) "The spell checker stores status codes in a table identifying whether ranges of a characters have been checked or not……" (Col 1, lines 57-59). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches "…. status codes in a table identifying whether ranges of a characters have been checked ……", and "The background speller makes efficient use of processor time ……" (Col 1, lines 57-59, and Col 2, lines 11-14).

Regarding dependent claim 25, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'the method.....table includes information pertaining to the location in said document of any words...potentially inappropriate.'. However, Mogilevsky discloses ".... Table 80 is depicted ......including a status code flag and a character position ......" (Col 7, lines 27-30). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches "The invention relates to word processing ......" (Col 1, lines 5-7), such as the "word processing application" taught by Bradshaw et al (Col 11, lines 29-31).

Regarding dependent claim 26, Bradshaw et al disclose "....the use of words inappropriate for a key word search are screened out along with offensive words......" (Col 3, lines 4-6). Bradshaw et al fail to explicitly disclose 'the method.....check the spelling of a word is also performed.'. However, Mogilevsky discloses "a method for performing spell checking in the background..." (Col 1, lines 49-50). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Bradshaw et al and Mogilevsky, because Mogilevsky teaches "The invention relates to word processing ......" (Col 1, lines 5-7), such as the "word processing application" taught by Bradshaw et al (Col 11, lines 29-31).

Claim 27 is directed towards a method of word checking an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claim 12, and is similarly rejected.

Claim 28 is directed towards a method of word checking an electronic document for implementing the steps found in claim 13, and recites substantially the same limitation, and consequently is similarly rejected.

Conclusion

I.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. De Souza et al. (Pat. # 5,848,418), Baker et al (Pat. # 5,696,898, and 5,678,041), Anderson (Pat. # 5,678,053), Capps et al. (Pat. # 5,367,453), Golding et al. (Pat. # 5,956,739), and Ishikawa (Pat. # 5,812,863).
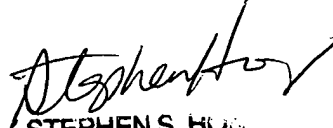
II.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (703) 306-5543. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached on (703) 305-4713. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day. The formal and informal fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-9051 and 308-5403 respectively.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

cbp

12/03/99

STEPHEN S. HO.
PRIMARY EXAMIN